

Message Text

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ORIGIN EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-08 XMB-02 AID-05 COME-00 TRSE-00
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DRAFTED BY EA/EP:AGEBER:SRP
APPROVED BY EA:EHEGINBOTHAM
EA/EX:JMORAN
EB:RDHORMATS
EXIMBANK:GHEIDRICH (INFO)
AID/ASIA:JSULLIVAN (INFO)
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TREASURY:ANACHMANOFF (INFO)
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R 012041Z DEC 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO ALL EAST ASIAN AND PACIFIC DIPLOMATIC POSTS

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E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS:EGEN

SUBJECT:REGIONAL ECONOMIC OFFICERS MEETING, SINGAPORE,
FEBRUARY 28-MARCH 2

REF: USDOC WASH 22214

1. AS USDOC REF. CABLE ALREADY INDICATED EA WOULD LIKE
TO HOLD REGIONAL ECONOMIC OFFICERS MEETING FEBRUARY 28-
MARCH 1 IN SINGAPORE AT TRADE CENTER IF FACILITIES
AVAILABLE. WOULD APPRECIATE EARLY INDICATION FROM
EMBASSY SINGAPORE IF THEY WOULD BE GOOD ENOUGH TO HOST
CONFERENCE.

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2. REGIONAL ECONOMIC OFFICERS CONFERENCE WOULD FOLLOW
IMMEDIATELY APCAC COUNCIL MEETING PLANNED FOR FEBRUARY
23-27 IN SINGAPORE. IT MAY BE RECALLED THAT FOLLOWING
COMMERCIAL OFFICERS MEETING IN FEBRUARY THIS YEAR, WHICH
INCLUDED A SESSION WITH APCAC OFFICERS, APCAC STRONGLY
RECOMMENDED THAT SUCH MEETINGS BE HELD ANNUALLY. IN LIEU
OF THAT WE PROPOSED THAT IN ALTERNATE YEARS, WE WILL TRY

TO SCHEDULE ECON OFFICERS CONFERENCE AND ARRANGE IT TO COINCIDE WITH APCAC SPRING MEETING. WE INTEND TO HAVE SESSION WITH APCAC ON FEBRUARY 28TH.

3. TIMING OF PROPOSED ECON OFFICERS MEETING WOULD ALSO SEEM TO BE PROPITIOUS FROM POINT OF VIEW OF OUR OWN POLICY FORMULATING PROCESSES. ADMINISTRATION HAS STRESSED UPGRADING OF IMPORTANCE OF OUR ECONOMIC RELATIONS WITH EA REGION. EA BUREAU HAS UNDERTAKEN EARLY THIS YEAR ELABORATE ECONOMIC POLICY REVIEW TO WHICH FIELD HAS CONTRIBUTED GREATLY BUT PERHAPS NOT AS MUCH AND NOT AS PERSONALLY AS WE WOULD LIKE TO HAVE HAD. ECON OFFICERS MEETING WILL ALLOW STOCK-TAKING AND SETTING DIRECTIONS ON BASIS OF ONE YEAR EXPERIENCE. EA INTENDS TO PREPARE FOR MEETING BY UNDERTAKING ITS OWN ECONOMIC POLICY REVIEW BETWEEN MID-JANUARY AND MID-FEBRUARY, PRELIMINARY RESULTS OF WHICH IT WILL WISH TO DISCUSS AT SINGAPORE. MEETING WILL ALSO FOLLOW FIRST COM MEETING IN REGION WHICH SHOULD PROVIDE GENERAL DIRECTION OF ECON OFFICERS DISCUSSIONS. LASTLY WE CAN FORESEE SOME MAJOR SPECIFIC ISSUES E.G. TRADE RELATIONS PARTICULARLY WITH "NORTHERN TIER" EA COUNTRIES AND FUTURE OF US-ASEAN ECON CONSULTATIONS, ON WHICH EXCHANGE OF VIEWS AT THAT TIME APPEARS VERY USEFUL.

4. DEPT'S TENTATIVE THINKING ON OUTLINE OF AGENDA AS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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FOLLOWS:

FIRST SESSION (MORNING FEBRUARY 28)

8:30-10:30....PERSPECTIVES AND OVERVIEW ON US ECONOMIC POLICY

---- US ECONOMIC OUTLOOK

---- CONGRESSIONAL ROLE IN FOREIGN POLICY

---- KEY ELEMENTS OF US FOREIGN ECONOMIC POLICY: TRADE, INVESTMENT, AID, COMMODITIES

10:45-12:30....MEETING WITH APCAC

---- MATTERS OF CONCERN TO APCAC (E.G. INVESTMENT POLICY, TAX POLICY, ASEAN)

12:30-2:30....LUNCH

---- NO HOST LUNCH WITH APCAC OFFICERS

SECOND SESSION (AFTERNOON FEBRUARY 28)

3:00-5:30....TRADE PROMOTION AND TRADE POLICY: MEETING
THE EAST ASIAN CHALLENGE

---- US-JAPAN TRADE RELATIONS

---- JAPANESE EXPORT PROMOTION IN EAST ASIA: HOW TO
COMPETE

---- PERCEPTION AND REALITY OF US PROTECTIONISM IN EA
(HONG KONG, KOREA, TAIWAN -- SEA)

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---- US TRADE PROMOTION POLICY EXIM BANK, USDOC RE-
ORGANIZATION, ROSENTHAL REPORT, CCPS, CAPS

THIRD SESSION (MORNING MARCH 1)

8:30-12:30....US-RELATIONS WITH SOUTHEAST ASIA

---- US-ASEAN DIALOGUE: WHAT SHOULD BE US RESPONSE
TO ASEAN

---- BILATERAL US AID TO INDONESIA, PHILIPPINES,
THAILAND, BURMA -- LEVELS AND PRIORITIES

---- ROLE OF IFIS

---- OTHER ECONOMIC ISSUES

FOURTH SESSION (AFTERNOON MARCH 1)

2:30-4:00....OTHER COUNTRY PROBLEMS

---- AUSTRALIA-NEW ZEALAND

---- SOUTH PACIFIC

---- PRC

---- INDOCHINA

4:00-5:30....SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS

---- WE WILL BE REFINING ABOVE IN NEXT FEW WEEKS.
COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS FROM ADDRESSEE POSTS ARE
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WELCOME.

5. EA DAS ERLAND HEGINBOTHAM WILL CHAIR MEETING. WE EXPECT REPRESENTATION FROM OTHER PARTS OF DEPARTMENT AND OTHER WASHINGTON AGENCIES. HEADS OR ACTING HEADS OF ECONOMIC SECTIONS OF ADDRESSEE POSTS ARE INVITED TO ATTEND. TRAVEL AUTHORIZATIONS FOR OFFICERS ATTENDING

THE CONFERENCE ARE TO BE ISSUED BY THE POSTS, CITING THE POSTS' PROGRAM S AND E ALLOTMENTS. SHOULD IT NOT BE POSSIBLE TO ABSORB THE TRAVEL COSTS WITHIN EXISTING FUNDS, THE BUREAU WILL ADJUST ALLOTMENTS FOR THESE EXPENSES, IF REQUESTED, AS PART OF THE NEXT REVIEW OF POSTS' FINANCIAL PLANS.

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Disposition Action: RELEASED
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Disposition Case Number: n/a
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